

Translation of Citation 3

[0014]

The aforementioned network communication means 8 contains a various functions which are required to practice network communications. One of them is a specific person selection function executed at a specific person selection means 8a. The selection function is used to choose specified persons from entry persons of an electronic meeting and provide them with limited information.

[0017]

The display area of each display means 2 contains a selectively display area 2b as well as the commonly display area 2a. As illustrated in Fig. 2, when the entry person A enters a message on the selectively display area 2b of his/her terminal of the electronic meeting system by manipulating the input means 3, the message is provided from the network communication means 8 through the network to all the terminal of the entry persons B and C. However, the message entered on the selectively display area is not displayed on the selectively display area 2b of the display means of all the terminals. Namely, the respective specific person selection means 8a of the terminal B and C judge whether the terminal A is in the same group thereof, and if so, the message is displayed on their selectively display area 2b, respectively.

[0018]

As illustrated in Fig. 3, since the specific person selection means 8a of the terminal B has determined that the terminal A is in the same group, the specific message from the terminal A is displayed on the selectively display area 2b of the display means 2 of the terminal B. On the other hand, as shown in Fig. 4, since the specific person selection means 8a of the terminal C has determined that the terminal A is not in the same group, the specific message from the terminal A is not displayed on the selectively display area 2b of the terminal C.

[0020]

Referring to Fig. 5, group information 9 is stored in a part of storage means 4, in which group IDs are associated with entry persons or terminals. If the group IDs are the same, the terminals are in the same group. In the example of Fig. 5, the terminals A and B are allocated to the same group ID and thus they are in the same group, while the terminals A (and B) and C have different group IDs and thus they are in different groups.

[0021]

The specific person selection means 8a of each terminal at a receiver side refers to the group IDs of the group information 9, and determines a sending terminal is in the same group when the group ID included in a specified message from the sending terminal is the same as its own group ID.